

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ON ADOT PROJECTS INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRACTORS**

The Arizona Department of Transportation's Environmental Planning Group is responsible for reviewing ADOT projects and developing measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate impacts to cultural and ecological resources. These measures are developed in cooperation with a number of Federal and State agencies, which have oversight authority and regulate impacts to these natural resources. These agencies include but are not limited to the following:

United States Army Corps of Engineers  
United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Arizona Department of Environmental Quality  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
Arizona State Historic Preservation Office  
Arizona Department of Agriculture

The authority of these agencies is derived from a number of Federal and State laws including the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, the Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Arizona Native Plant Law as well as a number of other laws that protect resources that may be impacted by transportation projects.

The measures that have been taken to comply with these laws and regulations are included as general conditions in ADOT standard specifications and more specific project conditions in the special provisions for the contract you have been awarded. Additional conditions are often required for special permits that may be necessary for project implementation such as Section 404 permits required to be obtained from the US Army Corps of Engineers for activities impacting ephemeral, intermittent and perennial water courses or wetlands.

Disregard for these conditions can result at a minimum in project delays or more serious civil and criminal fines and penalties associated with the violation of State and Federal laws and regulations.

The overall objective of these regulations is the protection of natural resources that have been identified through the public policy process as important to the quality of life for current and future generations. Compliance with contract provisions that have been developed for the protection of these resources will be required by all contractors working for the Arizona Department of Transportation.